

to the entire Arab world for half a day, to over a billion people by the Qatar-based and -operated Al Jazeera network, not only showed these American POWs under a state of great indignity and duress, but it also showed the bodies of at least four other soldiers, graphically and closely portrayed, two of whom appeared to have been shot in the head, raising suspicions that they had been executed after being captured.

Mr. Speaker, the Geneva Convention is quite clear and both Iraq and the United States and civilized elements of the media attain to the standards of that convention. It provides in part:

Prisoners of war must at all times be humanely treated. Likewise, prisoners of war must at all times be protected, particularly against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults or public curiosity. Measures of reprisal against prisoners of war are prohibited.

It is quite clear, and I cite now Human Rights Watch International, that the humiliating display of prisoners of war is a war crime. The leaders of our military who at this very hour, with tens of thousands of brave soldiers at their side, labor on behalf of liberty and on behalf of our freedoms, have made it quite clear that those who have treated American POWs, past, present and future, will be held to an account, Mr. Speaker. They will be hunted, and they will be prosecuted as war criminals.

But I rise not only in disgust over the behavior of Iraqi military personnel, which comes as no surprise to those of us who are students of the inhumanity of the regime of Saddam Hussein, but I rise also to condemn the decision by the Al Jazeera network to broadcast these materials. Also, as has been observed by military personnel in the field, the very broadcast of these materials to over a billion people in the world was a violation of the Geneva Convention. I would cite Lieutenant General John Abizaid, the deputy commander of Allied forces who said that any state-owned media or network that shows these materials is also in violation of the Geneva Convention and, quote, "will be held to account." This behavior to perform it but also to broadcast it is, in his words, absolutely unacceptable.

Today and tomorrow, Members of this body on both sides of the aisle as a part of our briefings, Mr. Speaker, in the name of the American people and on their behalf, will view these reprehensible 6 minutes which were played over and over again to over a billion people in the world. I rise today not just to offer warning to the deaf ears of an inhumane regime in Baghdad but I rise to offer a warning to the government of Qatar that is friendly to the United States, our own central command is in part located there at this hour, and say that your government-owned media should think very, very carefully about any future decisions which portray American POWs in any way that is violative of international

convention, of the Geneva Convention, or of the dignity of those brave men and women who fight on our behalf. The Iraqi soldiers are warned, but let our friends in the government of Qatar also be warned that those who violate this convention will be held to account.

THE WAR IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the President has said that bringing freedom to Iraq would not be easy and that it would not be fast. I think it is important that Americans know that we are indeed making incredible progress, but it is unrealistic to expect that after 12 weeks of digging himself in that we will be able to remove Saddam in a week.

Just yesterday, critics were questioning whether Iraqis really wanted freedom because there had been no popular uprisings against Saddam Hussein's henchmen. Well, today we have reports from our allies that in Basra, Iraqi civilians have challenged Saddam's soldiers. Clearly, the President and his advisers have a plan and it is working.

The second point I would like to make this evening is that we must remember the unsung heroes of this conflict, the military families. For every American soldier, there is a family, there is a community and an entire Nation who is praying that all will go well.

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It is imperative that we keep them in our prayers, for too often the challenges that they face go unnoticed.

Mr. Speaker, Fort Campbell sits in my congressional district. I would like to take this time to honor the families of the soldiers from Fort Campbell, the Special Operations forces, the 101st forces. We appreciate so much these families and the sacrifice that they are making to see freedom and liberty preserved not only in our country but also for the Iraqi people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. LINDA SANCHEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WATSON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to bring to the attention of the body another group of people that I would like to bring into what we are now calling the homeland heroes. These are folks whose daily lives confront them with incredible stresses and challenges far different than what their business had provided them with to begin with.

They started out ranching, and that is a difficult task in and of itself. But after generations in that particular industry and living in the same area on the border of Mexico, living in Arizona, many of the people who reside there are now living in what we can, I think, accurately describe as a war zone. Every week I have been bringing to the House the names and pictures of those people that I want to induct into this homeland heroes hall of fame, I guess is the way we will describe it.

Tonight I want to talk about Rob and Sue Krentz, who own and operate a ranch located on the far southeastern corner of Arizona, about 12 miles north of the U.S./Mexico border and 25 miles northeast of the city of Douglas. They are third-generation ranchers. This ranch has been in their family since 1907.

Rob and Susie Krentz have three children they raised on that ranch. Their two sons, Andrew and Frank, attend New Mexico State University, and their daughter, Kyle, is a high school senior.

The Krentz family story is similar in many ways to the experiences of hundreds of other ranchers in this border region. Yet to them and their children it is unique and it is personal and dreadful in the impact it has had on their lives and the future viability of their way of life as ranchers.

Just one tiny statistic that begins to tell the story of what these folks face every single day. In the month of November, 2002, in the Tucson Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol, which includes Cochise County, where this the Krentz ranch is located, the Border Patrol apprehended 23,000 border crossers.

That was in the month of November. It is anybody's guess as to how many people actually come across, but many, many people would suggest that the ratio is just about maybe one in five, and that is a very conservative estimate, that for every one person we apprehend on the border, at least five get through. Again, I think it is closer to one in ten, but I will accept even this